

Minutes

Approved 01/29/2011

Fenwick Island Environment Committee

August 10, 2010

Attendance: *Environmental Committee Members CoChair Vicki Carmean, Buzz Henifin, Susan Klein, Mary Ellen Langan, & Chuck Welsh; Parks & Rec Committee Members Chair Lois Twilley, William Biddle & Janet Hess; Wave Reporter Laura Dignan.*

1. **Flag Salute – 10:30 AM.**
2. **Minutes of June 8, 2010** - Mary Ellen Langan motioned, Susan Klein seconded; all voted to approve.
3. **Old Business**

- **Town Park Update:** Vicki Carmean summarized recent transactions regarding the recently purchased Cannon Street park, including, the Council's rejection of a Delaware Forestry Grant application to acquire trees to shield the perimeter of that lot from neighboring properties, the unauthorized cutting down of mature trees and shrubbery on the lot, and the Town Manager's plan to have an Eagle Scout build a kayak launch. Members of both committees voiced their strong objections to the cutting of the trees and shrubbery, especially since this has now created an unpleasant situation for the neighbors who can now easily see and smell the pump station. Plus, the recently installed plastic strips have not been effective in blocking the unsightly view of the chain link fence and public works building from the nearby residential lots.

After some intense discussion, a motion was made by Buzz Henifin and seconded by Mary Ellen Langan to have the CoChair write a letter to Audrey Serio expressing the two committees' concerns about the negative impact of the downed trees, the undisclosed plans of the Eagle Scout for the kayak launch and any future unilateral plans. This letter should also note two recommendations: 1) All activity on this lot should immediately cease until a committee is formed to begin reviewing ideas, which would then be passed onto the Council for discussion and approval. 2) This committee should be formed as soon as possible after the Council Reorganization Meeting to address present concerns and allow time to research future plans. It was suggested that the interested members of the Environmental and Parks & Rec Committees become the nucleus of this new committee, with the public and Council members encouraged to join as well.

- **Water Analysis:** Buzz Henifin, who has worked as a volunteer for years testing the water at Joe McGee's, the Andrews', and his own house, reported on the declining water quality. He attributes the high bacterial count to two sources, local birds and the southwest wind blowing through the marshlands. DREC puts

a water quality report on its local website, <http://apps.dnrec.state.de.us/RecWater>. The recent Summer 2010 Inland Bays Journal contains additional data on the Delaware Inland Bays water quality.

- **Energy Audit:** Vicki Carmean reported on the recent energy audit done by a for the Town. She noted that some of the same recommendations made by the Environmental Committee several years ago regarding the replacement of the light bulbs for the energy efficient LED's is now being considered. The Town has received a grant to replace the heat pumps and is applying for an additional grant to install solar panels on the public works building. In addition, now that the State's Municipal Street Aid money is so uncertain, the Council is looking at ways to reduce the cost of street lighting by replacing the "old" bulbs with energy efficient bulbs, pending the outcome of a study in two other towns.
- **CIB News:** Buzz Henifin shared information about the next Citizens' Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for August 18, 2010 at 4 PM at the Center for the Inland Bays as well as the Center for the Inland Bays' *Paddlin' for the Bays* fundraiser on August 21st at 2 PM.

4. New Business

- **Future of the Environmental Committee:** Vicki Carmean thanked members for their participation for the past two years and praised the efforts of everyone involved. Members who would like to serve on the committee for the next two years should let Vicki know so that she can pass this information along to the Council.
- **For the Good of the Cause:**
Buzz Henifin shared information about the reduced cost of electricity supplied via wind power from the Washington Gas Energy Services. Interested persons should contact 888-236-9437.
Vicki Carmean added information about energy savings from her new solar panels and a recent energy audit.
Chuck Welsh spoke regarding his concerns about the proposed public safety building. He would like to see Emergency Planning as part of any building effort, especially the inclusion of two underground storage water tanks that could see the Town through any major storm damage by providing water and sewage service for the residents. He also passed around information regarding his other ideas for the new public safety building.

5. Adjournment: A motion was made by Chuck Welsh and seconded by Buzz Henifin. All voted in favor at 11:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki L. Carmean, CoChair of the Environmental Committee



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Parks and Recreation Advisory Group

July 12, 2010

3:00 PM at Town Hall

Present: Lois Twilley, Bonnie Sheppard, Bill Biddle, Marilyn Simpler

Absent: Winnie Lewis, Janet Hess

Meeting called to order at 3:00 PM by Planning Commissioner Lois Twilley.

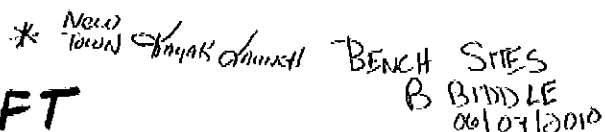
Purpose of this advisory group: to identify areas that might lend themselves to open space preservation and to identify other possible opportunities for recreational and park use/activity.

- Identification of areas/properties within the Town which lend themselves to preservation as park/open space(s)
 - Identified additional locations for benches and discussed making the area around them attractive by using strategically placed plantings
 - Identify further uses for Cannon St Kayak/Canoe launch. Will meet in conjunction with the Environmental Committee to discuss further
 - Relocate basketball court to the Cannon St property
 - Parking is a problem town-wide
- Signage to make residents and visitors aware of current and future recreational facilities
 - Excessive signage may be a problem
- Using public comment(s) or creating opportunities for public comment regarding recreational opportunities – Planning Commission would request Council's indulgence if they so choose
- Encouraging physical activity within the Town of Fenwick
- Accommodating physical activity within the Town of Fenwick
 - Bicycle safety – not a safe environment for bikes/pedestrians
 - Doggy bag and hand sanitizer stations at designated locations to encourage waste removal
 - Enhancing crossovers at the dunes for safety and ease of use

"Homework" – Bill Biddle will contact Bethany Beach regarding suppliers of dune crossover materials

Next meeting date: August 10, 2010 @ 10:30 am with the Environmental committee.

Transcribed from audio by Agnes DiPietrantonio



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